

Message Text

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73

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 NIC-01 DRC-01 /100 W
----- 020602

R 042014Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7056

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CI, PINT, PINS

SUBJ: ALTAMIRANO IN CUBA?

1. SANTIAGO PRESS JAN 3 AND 4 GAVE PROMINENT COVERAGE TO WIRESERVICE REPORTS THAT CARLOS ALTAMIRANO, LEADER OF OUT-LAWED SOCIALIST PARTY WHO HEADS JUNTA'S MOST WANTED LIST, APPEARED IN HAVANA AT PUBLIC RALLY JAN 2 WITH FIDEL CASTRO. GOC SPOKESMEN REFUSED FORMAL COMMENT OR CONFIRMATION; BUT DID NOTE THAT NEWS IS NOT SURPRISING SINCE MANY OTHER TOP UP LEADERS HAVE DESERTED THEIR SUPPORTERS AND FLED TO FOREIGN EMBASSIES OR COUNTRIES, USUALLY WITH SUITCASES STUFFED FULL OF MONEY AND OTHER ILL-GOTTEN GAINS.

2. AFTERNOON SEGUNDA JAN 3 EVEN CLAIMED ALTAMIRANO FLED ON CUBAN BOAT "PLAYA LARGA" WHICH PRECIPITIOUSLY UP-ANCHORED FROM VALPARAISO HARBOR ON COUP DAY SEPT 11.

3. COMMENT: MEDIA COVERAGE HAS PROBABLY CONVINCED MOST CHILEANS THAT ALTAMIRANO REALLY IS IN CUBA. EMBASSY HAS NO INFORMATION TO CONFIRM HIS PRESENCE IN EITHER CUBA OR CHILE. WE PUT LITTLE FAITH IN SEGUNDA'S BOAT STORY, HOWEVER, SINCE ALTAMIRANO'S POST-COUP TRAIL IN CHILE HAS BEEN REPEATEDLY ENCOUNTERED BY RELIABLE SOURCES.

THOMPSON

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 04 JAN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Event:
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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To: STATE
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